By Elvira Hallinan
Manager of Marinas and Beaches

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I hope you and your loved ones had a wonderful Christmas season and were able to get out on the water and participate in some of the festivities and enjoy the great holiday sights Long Beach has to offer, such as the trees in the bay and the beautifully decorated homes in Alamitos Bay and along our beach.

I am happy to report the Alamitos Bay rebuild project is progressing on schedule. With that said, I would like to thank the affected customers for all their patience and cooperation. I understand relocating is not always convenient; we appreciate that you have done it with a smile, with very little push back, and we thank you. While talking with customers I have learned so much marina history and have been made aware of the many friendships that have developed on our docks; nice to know we have our own special community. It really says a lot about feel of our marina and more important the compassion of our customers.

Finally, I wanted to share a few goals I have set for 2015:

• To continue to fight for the funding to complete the reconstruction of the Alamitos Bay Marina.
• To continue to refine operating costs to improve our amenities.
• To instill outstanding customer service among all staff responsible for providing services in the marina and other waterfront areas.
• To keep an open mind with regards to policies, procedures and regulations in the marina.
• To take whatever steps are necessary to ensure that Long Beach continues to be one of the finest waterfront locations.

Cheers to a successful and joyous 2015 and beyond!

FOUND!

When things are left behind in the restrooms they are often times brought to the marina office. If you have left items in the restrooms please take the time to either stop by the office or give us a call, there is a good chance we may have what you are missing.

Chief Randy Foster RETIRES

After 40 years of outstanding and dedicated service to the City of Long Beach Marine Safety Chief Randy Foster is saying good-bye to the daily work routine and hello to the beginning of a new “retired” lifestyle. Throughout his career he has protected our waterways as a Beach Guard, a Rescue Boat Operator, a Dive Team Member and is proudly retiring as the Chief. We are definitely going to miss him and wish him well in the next chapter of his life.
### TIDE CHART

**January 2015**

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**Marina Reader**

Published monthly by the Marine Bureau of the City of Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation & Marine

Marine Bureau  
205 Marina Drive, Long Beach CA 90803  
www.longbeach.gov/park/marine

Contact  
Kimarie Vestre (562) 570-3236  
kimarie.vestre@longbeach.gov
New Year Brings New Faces to the WATERFRONT

Sergeant Diana Hohman
Long Beach Police Department Marine Patrol Division
Sgt. Hohman has been a member of the Long Beach Police Department for 22 years. During her career she has worked in many different divisions including the Airport, Transit, Youth Services, the Training Academy and most recently with our Marine Patrol Division. Sergeant Hohman’s experience and enthusiasm has been well received by everyone, she is a real breath of fresh air. If you have any questions or concerns she is available and eager to hear from you. She has asked that if you see any unusual activity to please call Police Communications, (562) 435-6711, and report what you see. Our boatowners are extra eyes and ears on the dock and she would like to see us continuing to work together.

Kimarie Vestre
Marina Supervisor Alamitos Bay Marina
Kimarie has been with the City of Long Beach for 30 years, all at the Marine Bureau and says she loves it. Kimarie has worn many different hats over the years and has enjoyed the experiences and opportunities she has been given. She started as an Admission Attendant, then worked as a Marine Patrol Officer and Patrol Boat Operator, a Field Agent in the Operations Division, an Events Coordinator II, and was recently promoted to Marina Supervisor at the Alamitos Bay Marina. She holds an Associate’s degree from Long Beach City College and a Bachelor’s degree from CSULB. When not working she enjoys spending time with her family and the outdoor activities.

Chief Gonzalo Medina
Long Beach Fire Marine Safety Division
Captain Gonzalo Medina, a 19-year veteran of the Fire Department Marine Safety Division and lifelong Long Beach resident, has recently been promoted as Marine Safety Chief. According to Long Beach Fire Chief DuRee, “Gonzalo Medina has a long history of dedicated and professional service in the Long Beach Fire Department, and he will provide steady leadership for the Marine Safety Division,” Chief Medina has held many positions in the Department, including Ocean Lifeguard, Marine Safety Officer, Marine Safety Beach Sergeant, Dive Team Supervisor, Dive Officer for the Long Beach Public Safety Dive Team, and Administrative Marine Safety Captain. Chief Medina holds a Bachelor’s degree in Literature, with a Minor in Philosophy, and a Master’s degree of Fine Arts in Writing and Literature from the University of Alaska Anchorage.

Eric Lyons
Superintendent of Marine Maintenance
We would like to welcome Eric Lyons to the City of Long Beach, Department of Parks, Recreation, and Marine. Eric came to us with nearly 35 years of construction background. His experience and knowledge have already proven beneficial to the marina. Eric said he is enjoying his new job, is looking forward to what is coming up and is excited to be a part of the Alamitos Bay rebuild project. Eric is a Long Beach resident and when he is not at work he enjoys spending time outdoors fishing, boating, camping and playing golf.

PREPARE FOR WINTER WEATHER

Be sure to check your lines and make sure your vessel and tender are ready for the upcoming winter months. High winds and rain water can cause serious damage to your vessel if you are not prepared. Be sure to keep your tender “bailed out” to avoid damage and assure it stay afloat.
IT’S WHALE WATCHING SEASON!

When more than 15,000 Pacific Gray Whales migrate to winter feeding grounds in Mexico, they always include Long beach in their itinerary of seaside cities. The whale’s awesome journey can be easily seen by boat in Long Beach’s San Pedro Bay from now until mid April. Pacific Grays make the 12,000 mile round-trip between their summer Arctic feeding grounds and winter breeding grounds, closely following the Aleutian Islands past British Columbia, along the Washington, Oregon and California coast to the shallow lagoons of Mexico’s Baja California Peninsula.

By January, the whales begin arriving in Baja, first the pregnant females, then the mature breeding adults and finally the yearlings. The once imperiled Pacific Gray has fully recovered to pre-exploitation numbers since being listed under the Endangered Species Conservation Act of 1969. The federal government has since removed the Pacific Gray whales from the list. Pods of whales can be seen by individual skippers but the National Marine Fisheries Service wants to remind everyone of the following guidelines for whale watching.

• Maintain a distance of at least 100 yards from the whales.
• Whales should be followed in a parallel course, never cross a whale’s path.
• Never use a boat to separate a whale from its mother or to herd or drive whales.

• Remember that causing a whale to change it’s normal pattern, forcing it to take evasive action, such as diving, can be harmful to whales and is a prosecutable offense.
• Vessels should not operate at speeds faster than the slowest whale in the pod.
• Maintain a constant speed and avoid changing either speed or direction until well away from the whales.

Whale watchers will find the opportunity to spot some migrating whales as they “spy hot” (poking their heads out of the water), breach (jump out of the water) and mate. For skippers who would rather leave the driving to the professional spout spotters, daily whale watching excursions depart from Rainbow Harbor Marina.

P.S. Sometimes a trick to seeing whales is to follow these professional boats. Many of them hire airplanes to go out and spot the herds before they leave port. So, try tagging along, at a distance, of course.
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ALAMITOS BAY
Fuel Dock

December 22, 2014 – March 2015

The Alamitos Bay Fuel Dock will be replacing their underground storage tanks beginning December 2014. During this process the fuel dock will not have fuel for sale however, they will be open for minor vessel repairs. Listed below is a tentative schedule.

• Last fuel delivery will be Friday, November 28, 2014
• Construction mobilization starts December 1, 2014
• Boat Parade is December 13, 2014
• Last day to purchase fuel – December 21st (assuming they have any left from the November 28 delivery)
• Reopening of fuel dock is scheduled for mid-to-late March 2015
• They will be open for minor repairs and vessel assist during this time.

The fuel dock in the Long Beach Shoreline Marina will continue to be open for business 7 days a week from 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM If you would like to contact them, they can be reached at (562) 491-4636.

Attention
LBSM BOATERS ONLY

It Is Time To Update Your Hanging Parking Pass.

As we move into a new year it is time to update your hanging parking pass(s). In order for your hanging parking pass to be valid it must display a yellow “15” decal on the front of the pass.

Please bring your assigned hanging pass(s), along with your current vehicle registration, to the marina office to get your 2015 decal. Parking decals will only be issued to the permittee & spouse on file.

Decals will be issued daily during normal business hours. The office is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM and Sunday from 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM for your convenience.

As a reminder, Marine Patrol will cite any vehicle that does not have their current decal beginning March 1, 2015.

If you have any questions please contact Laurie Little, Shoreline Marina Harbormaster, at either (562) 570-4950 or via email at laurie.little@longbeach.gov.
It’s getting colder out on the water and you may have taken a break from watersports, but winter is a great time to prepare for the next boating season. Take a boating safety course or a specialty skills class. There are many options available to successfully complete a boating safety course, including the traditional classroom courses, and online instruction.

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, U.S. Power Squadrons and many state boating agencies sponsor such classes. For new boaters, basic courses include information on boats and their required equipment, trip planning, safe boat operations, emergency procedures, state-specific requirements and other water activities such as waterskiing and towing. For the more experienced boater, learning beyond the basics with information on how to keep yourself and your passengers safe, and how to operate, navigate, and communicate effectively on the water are essential to accident prevention. Knowing and understanding emergency equipment and procedures can be lifesaving. Boating education also helps ensure you are up to date on federal and state boating laws.

Boating education costs very little when compared to the initial investment you made in your boat and sometimes this education is even free of charge. If you choose to take a paid class, upon completion of a qualifying class, you may be able to get an insurance discount that more than pays for your training.

Following are some resources for finding a boating class:
- U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary (cgaux.org/boatinged/)
- U.S. Power Squadrons (usps.org/).
- National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (nasbla.net/courseListing.php).
- BoatUS Foundation Online Learning Center (boatus.org/onlinecourse/default.asp).
- Boatsafe (boatsafe.com/)
- The U.S. Coast Guard (uscgboating.org/safety/boating_safety_courses_.aspx)